

Message Text

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ACTION HEW-06

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-06 INR-10 IO-14 NSAE-00 AID-05
USIA-15 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-10
/115 W

-----116884 151058Z/11

R 151040Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8636

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 08936

NESCO

PASS DHEW/USOE-SHIFFMAN/COTNER
E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AORG SEDU UNESCO
SUBJ: US INTL LITERACY INITIATIVE

REFS:(A) SHIFFMAN-TINSMAN CONVERSATION 13 DEC 77;(B)
SHIFFMAN-TINSMAN LTR 10 JAN 78;(C) PARIS 7082

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH REFS (A), (B) OF (C) AND CONCERN-
ING QUESTIONS 1 AND 2 OF INTL LITERACY FEEDBACK FORM,
PERMDEL (TINSMAN) MET WITH UNESCO SECRETARIAT (BONNANI
AND LAZARUS) CONCERNING INCREASED US-UNESCO COLLABORA-
TION IN FIELD OF LITERACY DEVELOPMENT.

2. FYI: DIRECTOR, DIV OF LITERACY TRAINING, ADULT EDUCA-
TION AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT HAS BEEN VACANT FOR MORE THAN
6 MONTHS. POST PRESENTLY BEING ADVERTIZED. DR. JOHN RYAN
(US), DIR., INTL INSTITUTE FOR ADULT LITERACY METHODS
(TEHRAN) HAS APPLIED AND SHOULD BE A SERIOUS CONTENDER.
ACTING DIR. BONNANI (ITALY) DEPARTED UNESCO 10 MAR 78 TO
ACCEPT POSITION WITH UNICEF. THEREFORE DIVISION CURRENTLY
WITHOUT HIGH-LEVEL LEADERSHIP. RUTH LAZARUS (UK), CHIEF
OF LITERACY ACTIVITIES SECTION, IS PRESENTLY IN CHARGE OF
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UNESCO'S LITERACY WORK. END FYI.

3. UNESCO'S DEFINITION OF AND DIRECTION CONCERNING
LITERACY HAVE EVOLVED THROUGH THE YEARS FROM THE NARROW
READING-WRITING INTERPRETATION THROUGH "FUNCTIONAL
LITERACY" CONCERNED WITH PRODUCTIVE WORK TO THE BROADER
PERSPECTIVE OF "FUNCTIONAL" MEANING ONE'S ABILITY TO

PARTICIPATE EFFECTIVELY IN ONE'S SOCIETY--SOCIALY, CULTURALLY, ECONOMICALLY AND POLITICALLY. TO THIS END UNESCO ATTEMPTS TO COLLABORATE WITH MEMBER STATES BY ASSISTING IN ESTABLISHING PROGRAMS AND TRAINING BASED ON LOCAL MOTIVATIONS, NEEDS, PROBLEMS AND ASPIRATIONS, I.E. TO BUILD UPON AWARENESS AND MOTIVATION ON THE PART OF TARGET POPULATIONS THAT ACQUISITION OF LITERACY IN ITS BROADER CONTEXT CAN HELP INCREASE ONE'S ABILITY TO COMMUNICATE WITHIN HIS COMMUNITY; AID IN HELPING WITH HEALTH NUTRITION, SANITATION AND OTHER PROBLEMS, ASSIST IN OBTAINING EMPLOYMENT AND INCREASED WORK PRODUCTIVITY, ETC. TO ENHANCE AND MAINTAIN LITERACY UNESCO PLACES EMPHASIS ON THE CREATION OF A "LITERATE ENVIRONMENT", I.E. ESTABLISHING A CLIMATE THAT IS CONDUCIVE TO AND SUPPORTS THE DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF ONE'S SKILLS OVER TIME, E.G. LOCAL NEWSPAPERS, RURAL LIBRARIES, POSTERS, INEXPENSIVE PRINTING, ETC.

4. LITERACY DEVELOPMENT HAS HIGH PRIORITY AMONG UNESCO PROGRAMS. BY US STANDARDS, HOWEVER, THE BIENNIAL BUDGET FOR LITERACY AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT IS SMALL--\$5,304,700.

5. SECRETARIAT WAS VERY RESPONSIVE TO AND INTERESTED IN POSSIBLE INCREASED US INITIATIVE IN LITERACY DEVELOPMENT AT BOTH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS. IT IS RECEPTIVE TO INCREASED COLLABORATION WITH U.S. IN FIELDS UNCLASSIFIED

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OF RESEARCH, EXPERIMENTATION, TRAINING AND LIBRARIES. IT WOULD LIKE TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES OF CONSULTANT HELP; EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION WITH COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES, AND APPROPRIATE AGENCIES; AND ATTENDANCE OF U.S. EXPERTS AT TECHNICAL MEETINGS.

6. INCLUDED AMONG SUBJECTS AND SERVICES DISCUSSED FOR EXPLORATION AND/OR INCREASED COLLABORATION WERE:

(A) RESEARCH ON READING AND READING PROBLEMS; ESSENTIAL FACTORS OF DEVELOPMENT OF LITERACY AT CHILD, YOUTH AND ADULT LEVELS; BILINGUAL/BICULTURAL FACTORS; RETENTION OF LEARNING; TEACHING AND TRAINING METHODS; CREATING A "LITERATE ENVIRONMENT"; NEWSPAPER READING HABITS; URBAN/RURAL DROP-OUT PROGRAMS; AND THE TEACHING OF ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE.

(B) SURVEYS, MEASUREMENT AND STATISTICAL DATA.

(C) SERVICES INCLUDING CORRESPONDENCE EDUCATION, RURAL PRESS, MOBILE LIBRARIES, INEXPENSIVE MATERIALS (PAPER) PROCESSING, INEXPENSIVE PRINTING AND PUBLISHING, EDUCATIONAL MEDIA, DISSEMINATION SYSTEMS, MOBILE TRAINING

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/115 W

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TEAMS, TRANSPORT VEHICLES, ETC.
(D) ACTIVITIES INCLUDING TEACHER AND COMMUNITY LEADER
TRAINING, WRITERS' WORKSHOPS, WRITING COMPETITIONS,
CREATIVE ARTS WORKSHOPS, ETC.

7. SECRETARIAT SUGGESTED THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF UNESCO
AND USOE AND POSSIBLY IRA CONDUCT AN EXPLORATORY MEETING
TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE FUTURE COLLABORATION. PERMDEL CON-
CURRED AND AGREED TO INVESTIGATE AVAILABILITY OF USOE AND
IRA REPRESENTATIVES TO ATTEND SUCH A MEETING AT UNESCO
HEADQUARTERS IN APRIL OR MAY. PERMDEL EXPLORED LATE JULY
OR EARLY AUGUST AS ALTERNATIVES (TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF
TRAVEL TO IRA'S SEVENTH WORLD CONGRESS ON READING IN
HAMBURG) BUT KEY MEMBERS OF LITERACY STAFF WILL BE
ABSENT FROM SECRETARIAT AT THOSE TIMES.

8. PERMDEL RECOMMENDS THAT USOE AND IRA SEND REPRESENTA-
TIVES TO UNESCO HEADQUARTERS MID-APRIL OR MID-MAY TO
DISCUSS POSSIBLE MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL COLLABORATION WITH
APPROPRIATE UNESCO STAFF. PERMDEL DOES NOT RECOMMEND
DELAYING SUCH CONSULTATION UNTIL NEW DIVISION DIRECTOR IS
APPOINTED AS SUCH APPOINTMENT IS NOT EXPECTED UNTIL
SEPTEMBER OR OCTOBER.

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9. PERMDEL SUGGESTS THAT IRA MAY WISH TO EXTEND INVITATION TO MS. RUTH LAZARUS, CHIEF, LITERACY ACTIVITIES SECTION, EDUCATION SECTOR, UNESCO, 7 PLACE DE FONTENOY, 75007, PARIS TO ATTEND ITS CONGRESS IN HAMBURG IN AUGUST.
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Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
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Enclosure: n/a
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3324337
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US INTL LITERACY INITIATIVE
TAGS: AORG, SEDU, FR, UNESCO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/674ccec6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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